# The Suffragist

5 CENTS

OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

Entered as second-class matter, November 14, 1913
at the Post-Office at Washington, D. C.,
under the act of March 8, 1879.

VOL. II | FEBRUARY 7, 1914 | No. 6

WILSON-HAMLET.—To follow or to lead?—that is the question!

# NOTES OF THE WEEK

*Situation in Congress.*

A call for a caucus of the Democratic party in the House was issued for Tuesday evening, February 3rd, to consider House Resolution No. 22, to create a standing committee on Women Suffrage. The call was signed by fifty-one members of the House.

*Reception to the Delegates.*

On Sunday afternoon a reception at the Brighton Hotel was given by the Congressional Union to the members of the working women's deputation.

*Meeting at the Public Library.*

A crowded meeting was held in the hall of the Public Library on Monday morning, at which leaders of the deputation spoke. After the meeting the deputation marched down New York Avenue, with bands and banners, to the White House.

*Weekly Meetings.*

The first of a series of weekly meetings will be given at 1420 F Street on Sunday, February 8th, at 4 P. M. Mrs. John Jay White, Mrs. Gilson Gardner and Miss Ruth Noyes will act as hostesses.

## CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

HEADQUARTERS, 1420 F St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.,
COLORS, Purple, White and Gold.

The Congressional Union was formed with one idea in mind, that of focusing its entire energy upon securing the passage of a Federal Amendment. It is open to all women who consider woman suffrage the main issue in national politics.

If you are willing to help us, fill out the following membership blank and send it, with the 25 cents entrance fee, to the Congressional Union, 1420 F Street Northwest, Washing, ton, D. C.

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# Congressional Union Campaign

## PROPAGANDA WORK

### Washington, D. C.

Washington, D. C.—The interesting event of the week was the labor demonstration held the 1st and 2d of February, in Washington, beginning with the reception and meeting at the Brighton, the afternoon of February 1, with speeches by the Hon. Wm. Wilson, Secretary of Labor; Mr. Charles Edward Russel, Mrs. Glendower Evans, formerly a member of the Massachusetts Minimum Wage Commission, and others.

The mass meeting at the Public Library, February 2, was also a great success. Detailed information concerning these two meetings will be found elsewhere in the paper.

Three very interesting drawing room meetings were held during the week at the residences of sympathizers with the work of the Congressional Union. The first of these was at the residence of Miss Lena Hitchcock, the Banner Chairman, whose splendid work was seen in the beautiful display of flags, standards and state banners, on the 2d of February, when the procession of three hundred working women marched under their devices, from the Public Library to the White House, where a few of their number were admitted to the promised audience with the President. Miss Elsie Hill, President of the College for Woman Suffrage, made a stirring speech at this meeting, on the necessity for concentration on the main issue in suffrage work, obtaining suffrage in the quickest and surest way possible.

The second meeting of the week was held at the home of Miss Genevieve Wimsatt, a member of the Congressional Union, at 215 8th street southwest. Miss Lucy Burns spoke on the Constitutional Amendment, and Mrs. Wm. Kent, wife of Representative Kent of California, on the work of The Congressional Union.

The third drawing room meeting was at the home of Mrs. Alexander, 1845 North Capitol street, where a number of people listened with interest to a talk by Mrs. St. Clair Thompson of North Carolina, on the necessity for organization among southern women for the Constitutional Amendment.

### Delaware

Delaware.—The Young Men's Hebrew Association of Wilmington, held a meeting on February 8, with Miss Mabel Vernon as speaker.

A delegation of Delaware suffragists, headed by Miss Mabel Vernon, Chairman of the Congressional Union of Delaware, interviewed Senator Dupont of their state at the Senate Office Building, Washington, on January 30, with the purpose of obtaining the Senator's attitude toward the proposed Constitutional Amendment. They learned that his objection to adding 2,000,000 illiterate women to the number of illiterates already voting in the United States, would prevent his supporting the amendment granting suffrage to women.

An endorsement of woman suffrage was obtained from three trade unions of men in Delaware, and a resolution passed, calling on the Senators and Representatives of the state to lend their support to the proposed Constitutional Amendment.

### Maryland

Maryland.—A delegation of a hundred women from the Trades Union Leagues of Baltimore, added their strength to the labor Demonstration in Washington on February 2.

# PROGRAM OF THE WEEK

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th.**

Wilmington, Del., Young Men's Hebrew Association — 8.30 P. M.
Speaker, Miss Mabel Vernon

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9th.**

Baltimore, Md., Residence of Mrs. Wm. J. Ewing, 100 Edgevale Road — 4.00 P. M.
Speaker, Mrs. Nina Allender of Washington, D. C.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th.**

Wilmington, Del., Residence of Mrs. J. M. R. De Lacour, 706 West Street.
Speaker, Dr. Robert Brooks, Swarthmore College, Pa.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th.**

Washington, D. C.,Residence of Mrs. John Jay White, 2408 Mass. Ave., — 5.00 P. M.
Speaker, Miss Eliza Lord.

Dover, Del., Farmer's Institute. — 8.00 P. M.
Speaker, Miss Mabel Vernon.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11th.**

Smyrna, Del., Farmer's Institute. — P. M.
Speaker, Miss Mabel Vernon.

New Castle, Del., Grand Opera House. — P. M.
Speaker, Mrs. Florence Bayard Hills.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th.**

Washington, D. C., Congressional Union Headquarters. — 4.30 6.00 P. M.
Informal reception, with tea served. All welcome.

Washington, D. C., 9th and E Streets Northwest—Open Air Meeting — 8.00 P. M.
Speakers, Mrs. St. Clair Thompson and Miss Elsie Hill

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th.**

Washington. D. C. Street meeting. Place to be announced in daily papers. — 8.00 P. M.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT, DEC. 7, 1912, TO DEC. 31, 1913.

The report of Congressional work for the year 1913 is about to be sent to all contributors to the funds and to all members of the Congressional Union. We will be glad to send the report also to anyone else making application for it.

The financial statement included in this annual report is here printed in THE SUFFRAGIST.

During the year we have had the services of three treasurers. On coming to Washington the latter part of December a year ago, Miss Alice Paul, the Chairman of the Congressional Committee, took charge of the funds in the name of the Congressional Committee until a treasurer could be secured.

With the opening of headquarters in Washington, on January 2, 1913, Miss Emma M. Gilletts, now Dean of the Washington College of Law, accepted the position of Treasurer, and held this office until the middle of April. Miss Gillette bore the burden, therefore, of the immense financial work connected with the great procession of last March, involving the handling of nearly $15,000. Miss Gillette found the work too heavy for her, and shortly after the close of the procession handed over the treasurership to Mrs. Annette W. Bayley, wife of Rear Admiral Bayley, who took the office in the name of the Congressional Union, which was formed at this time. Mrs. Bayley gave her constant attention to the treasurer's department, coming daily to the office until she left Washington in June. Mrs. Mary Morris Lockwood, daughter-in-law of the late General Lockwood, and a well-known Washington woman, then volunteered her services as Treasurer of the Congressional Union, and is still serving in this capacity.

The members of the Union are deeply indebted to these three women who have carried on so unremittingly the immense work involved by the position of Treasurer. They have the sincere gratitude of all who have been interested in the Washington work during the past year.

## Expenditures

*From December 7th, 1912, to December 31st, 1913.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Banquet, March 1st, 1913, (catering, decorations, tickets) | $107.50 |
| Campaign, under Miss Vernon, in New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, for the month of July (salary and travelling expenses of organizer, expenses of meetings, etc.) | 208.69 |
| Campaign, under Miss Marsden, in New Jersey, Long Island and Rhode Island, during July, August and September (salary and travelling expenses of organizer, expenses of meetings, etc.) | 377.01 |
| Congressional Union Dues to the National American Woman Suffrage Association | 43.60 |
| Demonstration, April 7th (bands for procession, rent of theater, banners, advertising, printing, expenses of Speaker at meeting, decoration of theater) | 674.49 |
| Demonstration, July 31st (automobiles for procession, banners, petitions, advertising, printing, banquet at Hotel Brighton) | 1,028.86 |
| Delaware Headquarters, September 1st to December 31st (rent of headquarters, salary of organizer, rent of halls for meetings, advertising meetings, office expenses) | 488.18 |
| Entertainment of Convention of National American Woman Suffrage Association (rent of halls, badges, advertising, printing, hospitality) | 1,440.55 |
| Entertainment of convention, National Council of Women Voters (rent of hall, advertising, badges, printing, travelling expenses of speakers, etc.) | 761.83 |
| Expressage and hauling | 13.92 |
| Judge Lindsey Meeting (rent of hall, advertising, etc.) | 176.93 |
| Literature | 1,079.59 |
| Miscellaneous | 304.90 |
| New Jersey Deputation to President Wilson, November 16th (rent of theatre, decoration of theatre, advertising meeting, travelling expenses of speaker for meeting) | 153.87 |
| Office expenses (janitor, messengers, card catalogues, ink, erasers, pens, etc.) | 384.77 |
| Office furnishing | 65.26 |
| Other Societies: | |
| Transferred to: | |
| Collected for Michigan Campaign | 2.00 |
| For Ohio Flood Sufferers | 5.00 |
| Subscriptions forwarded to Woman's Journal | 6.25 |
| Tickets sold and boxes taken for Carneigie Hall Mtg., N. Y., at close of N. Y. procession; for Metropolitan Opera House Mtg., N. Y., preceding N. Y. procession; for Lyric Theatre Mtg. following Baltimore procession; for benefit given by Stanton Club of the District of Columbia; for benefit given by District of Columbia Suffrage Assn.; for Mrs. Pankhurst's Columbia Theater Meeting | 947.27 |
| Expenses incurred for: | |
| Donation to Michigan campaign | 25.00 |
| Formation D. C. Men's League | 56.38 |
| Department Women's Suffrage League, Alexandria Co., Va., Court House Mtg.; production of Suffrage play for Maryland Just Gov't League; expenses in connection Pankhurst meeting | 153.00 |
| Press Department (salary of press chairman, messenger boy, photographs, mimeographing press bulletin) | 587.74 |
| Printing and duplicating | 841.05 |
| Procession rally, Columbia Theater, March 2nd | 210.00 |
| Procession, March 3rd, 1913: | |
| Automobiles | 140.00 |
| Bands | 1,739.50 |
| Banners | 1,026.05 |
| Cavalry | 110.10 |
| Costumes | 3,249.75 |
| Floats | 907.11 |
| Hauling and storage | 36.25 |
| Meeting at close of procession (rent of hall, decorations, advertising) | 134.25 |
| Penants | 455.00 |
| Regalia | 73.95 |
| Travelling expenses, Procession | 150.00 |
| Programs | 1,031.25 |
| Rent of headquarters | 1,026.25 |
| Rent (additional for meetings) | 39.00 |
| Stamps (office routine) | 451.70 |
| Stationery (office routine) | 83.91 |
| Stenographers, typists, typewriting machines | 1,886.69 |
| Suffrage luncheon, October 1st to 4th (rent of furniture and dishes, wages of servants, purchase of food supplies, gas, electric light, advertising, printing, etc.) | 481.72 |
| Suffrage play, May 20th (rent of theater, costumes, scenery, orchestra, advertising, stage properties, electrician, stage hands and ushers, programs, etc.) | 534.13 |
| Suffrage school, December 8th to 20th (rent of hall, programs, advertising, printing) | 101.00 |
| "Suffragist, The" (printing, engraving, salary business manager, stationery, postage, wrapping and addressing, etc.) | 892.11 |
| Telephone and telegrams | 488.14 |
| Tableaux on Treasury steps, March 3rd (costumes, scenery, music, stage properties, travelling expenses of participants, expenses in connection with grandstand) | 1,172.40 |
| Travelling and other expenses of Suffrage workers | 998.45 |
| Gross expenditures | $27,352.35 |
| Balance on hand, December 31st, 1913 | 25.64 |
| | $27,377.99 |

## Receipts

*From December 7th, 1912, to December 31st, 1913.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Advertisements | $768.25 |
| Contributions and collections | 12,597.79 |
| Membership fees to Congressional Union | 248.75 |
| Miscellaneous | 192.30 |
| Other Organizations: | |
| Sale of tickets for meetings of other Suffrage Societies, collections made for other organizations, subscriptions secured to the Woman's Journal | 1,069.12 |
| Sale of costumes for procession, play and tableaux | 1,485.39 |
| Sale of literature, programs, pennants, buttons, etc. | 2,453.16 |
| Sale of tickets for meetings, procession, play, luncheon, etc | 7,933.27 |
| Subscriptions to "The Suffragist". | 629.96 |
| Gross receipts | $27,377.99 |

## Auditor's Statement

I have examined the receipts and disbursements as shown in the above account and have found them correct; the disbursements being supported by proper vouchers.

| | |
|---|---|
| Total amount received | $27,377.99 |
| Total disbursements | 27,352.35 |
| Leaving a balance of | $25.64 |

(Signed) JOHN C. ATHEY,
*Auditor and Accountant.*

January 31st, 1914.

VOL. II FEBRUARY 7, 1914 No. 6

# The Suffragist

Official weekly newspaper of the

CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

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**SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:**

**Domestic . . . . . $1.00**
**Foreign . . . . . $1.50**
**Single copies . . . . . 5 cents**

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DARLING 34 PRINTER

SENATE AND HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER ONE Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United State of America in Congress Assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—

"Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

## HISTORY OF AMENDMENT

*Introduced:*
*In the Senate:* April 7, 1913, by Senator George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon.
*In the House:* April 7, 1913, by Representative Frank W. Mondell, of Wyoming.

*Referred:*
*In the Senate:* April 7, 1913, to the Woman Suffrage Committee.
*In the House:* April 7, 1913, to the Judiciary Committee.

*Reported:*
*In the Senate:* June 13, 1913, unanimous favorable report.

*Discussed:*
*In the Senate:* July 31, 1913, twenty-two Senators in favor, three opposing.
September 18, 1913, Senator Wesley L. Jones, of Washington, demands immediate action.
On January 21, 1914, Senator Ashurst of Arizona, delivered a speech urging the passage of the Amendment.

*Present Status:*
*In the Senate:* Awaiting action.
*In the House:* Before the Judiciary Committee.

## The Caucus Decision

The decision of the Democratic party in caucus last night that Woman Suffrage is not a federal question, is simply an error. Any question affecting citizens of more than one State is a federal question. An amendment extending the franchise to the women of the country is most obviously a federal question. It is always perfectly constitutional to amend the Constitution at any time and in any direction. It is the business of Congress to consider such proposed amendments on their merits. They may decide against these amendments, but to decide that they are not federal questions is simply unreasonable.

There is direct and indirect precedent for federal action on the suffrage question. The Federal Government has once by constitutional amendment extended the franchise to the negro. Indirectly they have also extended the franchise to many white men who vote today under federal naturalization laws. That these naturalized citizens obtained the right to vote by State law does not affect the fact that millions of men became citizens and therefore voters, by federal law. If federal interference in regard to the electorate of the various States were disastrous a large part of our present voting arrangement must be regarded as disastrous.

It is true that the States can enfranchise their women. But that is no reason why Congress cannot. It is women's business to decide by what avenue they shall seek enfranchisement; which road to success is the most direct and the most economical of their time, money and energy. If we choose to appeal to the national government, the national government must hear our plea.

The vote of the Democrats in caucus simply means that the Democratic party is not yet willing to use its power to extend the franchise to women.

## The President's Answer

By MRS. GLENDOWER EVANS

The President is a gentleman, and he is likewise an accomplished diplomat. It was an adroit turn when he closed an embarrassing dialogue with the Working Women's delegation to the White House, by asking that the members of the delegation who had been excluded from the audience be admitted to the extent of shaking his hand. That courtesy delivered him for the moment. But for the moment only. In the meeting following, held at the Young Women's Christian Association, where the delegates adjourned for lunch, the poverty of his position was revealed in all its nakedness. "What did he say?" asked the excluded delegates. "Will he help us or won't he?" Then the hard fact came out with no hand-shaking to divert the issue. He will not raise his hand to help us. He will not speak a word, because he is bound by his party. He denies himself the right of free speech on this burning issue of justice and of freedom. "But if you cannot speak *for* your party, why not speak *to* it, Mr. President? Will you promise us that?"

Until he will give that promise both he and his party must be held responsible, together and singly, leader and rank and file. That is where the President left the issue. Let the women of the counry, enfranchised and unenfranchised, understand.

## The Next Step

"On Monday President Wilson referred a deputation of Suffragists to the Democratic party for action on the Suffrage measure. On Tuesday the suffrage question was put squarely up to the Democratic party by the calling of the Democratic caucus. The Democratic party by its action in caucus has refused at this moment to take up the Suffrage cause. The work of Suffragists from now on must be to organize such demonstrations throughout the country and to give such evidence of the strength of their movement as to convince the Democratic party that the time has arrived for this question to be taken up by the party. We hope that before this session ends the Democratic party will come to a realization of the great opportunity which is before it. It has in its hands at this moment as great an opportunity as that which was before the Republican party when it enfranchised a race.

Suffragists are glad to know just where the Democratic party stands, and just where further pressure ought to be brought to bear. They have by no means given up hope of attaining success in this present session, and will turn at once to the Judiciary Committee of the House which has had the proposed suffrage amendment in its charge since last April. They will ask immediately for a hearing by this committee, and will press for a report.

Though the campaign for the creation of a suffrage committee in the House, similar to that existing in the Senate, has met with a temporary set-back, the suffrage measure itself is still before both houses of Congress; having received a unanimously favorable report in the Senate, and being still in committee stage in the House.

The energy of Suffragists will now be centered on the main suffrage bill, attention no longer being given to the minor question of a suffrage committee. We enter into this campaign full of hope that the Democratic party will soon awaken to a realization of the justice of this question of self-government.

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The organizing of the deputation of women wage earners who marched to the White House on February 2, was done by Miss Stevens from the headquarters of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, and by Miss Alice Paul and Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, who worked in the different states and secured delegates from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. All of the work accomplished was planned and carried out in three weeks' time, and valuable assistance was given by Mrs. Glendower Evans of Massachusetts, Miss Mabel Vernon of Delaware, Miss Emily Pierson of Connecticut and Mrs. Mary Beard, of New York.

## Too Many Members

Minority rule, through parliamentary bossism, is to be expected with the House of Representatives of such unwieldy, unworkable size as at present. Just as the caucus is only a manifestation of evils vastly bigger than itself, so is the domination of the House by membership so large that equality and democratic action are practically impossible.

# President Wilson Sees Working Women

## Cannot Speak For Party

**Plaza in Front of Carnegie Library**

The huge deputation of women who had come together from ten industrial states, representing more than fifty trades in which women are engaged, assembled for a mass meeting preliminary to waiting upon the President. This deputation of self-supporting women was the most convincing argument for self-government that was ever put before any person, and by far the most significant to seek audience with President Wilson.

At 10.30 o'clock the Public Library Auditorium was full to overflowing with those eager to hear the program arranged, while a still larger crowd began to slowly assemble on the plaza to await the deputation.

Miss Paul, Chairman of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, called the meeting to order. She said:

"We meet here this morning to welcome you on behalf of the Congressional Union, and to tell you of the support which we all give you in this deputation to the President.

"This is the sixth deputation which has gone to see President Wilson. Last spring a deputation of women voters called on the President. A deputation of college women and a deputation from the National Suffrage Association went to him also. This November seventy-three women from President Wilson's own state, the State of New Jersey, went to the President. In December the National Suffrage Convention, which was in session here, sent a deputation. These deputations appealed to him as the leader of his party and as the head of the nation to aid in this struggle for enfranchisement.

"Though the President has taken no action as yet, we still hope and believe that he will realize the great opportunity before him and will do something to help the women of this country.

"There is probably no deputation which has ever gone to him that is so full of meaning as is this labor deputation. We are filled with hope as to the results to be accomplished by your mission. What you are doing will help not only working women but all women. We wish you God-speed.

"I will now introduce to you the first speaker, Miss M inda Scott, an organizer of the Woman's Trade Union League, and a resident of the State of New Jersey."

Miss Scott:

"Madam Chairman and Friends: We have been asked to come to Washington and tell why working women need the ballot. First of all woman suffrage is a woman's question. It is a woman's question because the issues involved are important to us women, caring as

we do for the welfare of all women and children, and also because the problems of the working women are so great that they need the ballot to help them in their industrial conditions.

"No one could be serious when they maintain that the ballot will not help the working woman. It has helped the working man to better his conditions and his wages. Men of every class regard the ballot as their greatest protection against the injustice of other men. Women even more than men need the ballot to protect their especial interests and their right to earn a living. The disenfranchised cannot protect themselves nor their labor. (Applause.) How often have we proven this to be the case when we have journeyed to our different capitols, state and national, begging our legislatures to enact laws that will protect women and children and indirectly the nation, such as a shorter working day. Eight hours a day is long enough for anyone to work (applause), much less women, who are supposed to be the weaker sex, and if we cannot earn enough of wages to keep us from the poorhouse working eight hours a day, then there must be a leak somewhere in our industrial as well as our political system.

"We want a law that will prohibit home work. We know that home work is a deadly menace to all of society, not only by reason of its unsanitary experiences, but because of its cutting down the wages of the women employed in the factories. (Applause.) We hear about the sacredness of the home. What sacredness is there about a home when it is turned into a factory, where we find a mother very often with a child at her breast running a sewing machine. Running up 37 seams for a cent. Ironing and pressing skirts 70 cents a dozen, and children making artificial flowers for 1 cent a gross. Think or it, 144 flowers for one cent. Taking stitches out of coats helping their mothers, where they have finished them for 6 cents a coat. These women have had no chance to make laws that would protect themselves or their children. Disenfranchisement helps to keep women's wages down (applause).

"The organized working woman has learned through her trade union the power of industrial organization, and she realizes what her power would be if she had the ballot. She could obtain through legislation the appointing of factory inspectors and labor commissioners who would be obliged to work earnestly and faithfully for the welfare of all women and children.

"Men legislating as a class for women and children as a class have done exactly what every other ruling class has done since the history of the world. They discriminate against the class that has no voice. Some of the men say 'You women do not need the ballot, we will take care of you.' We have no faith in man's protection (applause). Men are not very gallant as a rule to working women. She knows it by experience and not by theory (applause). Give us the ballot and we will protect ourselves (applause). Some people say that working women do not want the ballot, and we working women who do think want to get it for the working women who say they do not want it, because we know when working women get the ballot our hours will be shorter. We shall have a chance to educate ourselves.

"We are part of the people who house and clothe and feed the world, and any one that can support themselves under the industrial conditions as they are today ought not to be classed as an imbecile, lunatic or idiot (applause). Give the working women a chance to grow and work out their salvation. We are tired of being told by others what is good for us. You are ready to give us everything under the sun but wages and shorter hours, and a chance to make our own home surroundings and our own pleasures. If you are really in earnest about helping the working women; if you really mean to help us; help us get the ballot. I will now conclude in the words of the National President of the Women's Trade Union League: 'The Woman's Movement and the Labor Movement are two expressions of the Democratic spirit of our times. Every woman in America who wishes to see our land bring forth a great people must join us working women in insisting that unto us be given the full control of the conditions under which we live and work" (prolonged applause).

Miss Scott was followed by Mrs. Mary Waxman, representing a delegation of unemployed women of New York City.

ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN

Miss Rose Schneidermann, V. P. of the National Women's Trade Union League, then said:

*"Fellow Workers*: I think the very fact that we are gathered here all of us working women from ten states means a great thing in behalf of progress. President Wilson in his 'New Freedom' states that conditions today are so much different than they were 20 years ago. I think the President struck the note. Especially do working women find the conditions today different than they were during the times of their grandmothers. Women always worked all through history, only they did it under different conditions years ago. We did not work for wages at one time. We worked for the home, and with the introduction of machinery we were forced out of that home. As a result we find ourselves today, women and children, in these factories, and the question is what we are going to do about it. We know that in industry there is no chivalry. We are not considered any more than the man next to us, unless we are going to take one-half of the wages that he asks for, and so long as we consider ourselves a loop, and so long as we are recognized as such, then so long we are going to be disenfranchised.

"In order to bring about better working conditions we need the ballot, and we need organization after we get the ballot (applause). We need organization so as to sell our labor collectively, because individualism has played its last card (applause).

"If you have got to work for your living, you need organization (applause), and if all the working women of America were to organize today and demand the ballot, I am sure they would get it the same day they demanded it (applause)."

Miss Margaret Hinchey, of New York, a laundry worker, and Miss Rose Winslow, of Pennsylvania, a textile worker, in stirring and forceful manner made strong appeals for votes for the working women to improve their industrial conditions.

The delegates fell in immediately behind their state banners. Standards bearing their trades dotted the entire line. High in the air mottoes carrying pertinent bits of the President's "New Freedom" were easily read by the spectators. One heard them reading aloud "We have got to humanize industry"; "I absolutely protest against being put into the hands of trustees," etc., etc.

It was a most impressive sight, the march of these women with steady step, heads erect and keenly alert to the justice of their demand. As the band struck up the glorious strains of "The Marseillaise" their faces seemed to shed light anew. Mrs. Glendower Evans, of Boston, carried the American flag, with Rose Schneidermann, V. P. of the Women's Trade Union League by her side, and led the procession. Directly behind them came Rose Winslow, Margaret Hinchey and Melinda Scott, carrying the huge banner "We demand an amendment to the U. S. Constitution enfranchising women."

The army of 400 arrived safely, with perfect police escort, at the doors of the White House. We were amazed to learn that the President would see only 25 of the women. He had said he would "receive the delegation." The selected number then went in, the remaining 375 waited in line outside.

Mrs. Glendower Evans, in her inimitable way, took charge of affairs inside. After the women had assembled she at once began to address the President, saying:

"Mr. President, I had the honor a year and a half ago to have an interview with you upon this suffrage matter at Sea Girt. At that time you were good enough to explain to me your position somewhat fully, going into the pros and cons as they lay in your mind. I had not expected that, but only a straight yes or no. As you explained your position you went such a very long way toward our side that I have since felt you were almost with us, and since your election I have been looking and hoping almost week by week for some favorable word from you. I come here now heading a deputation of working women. They come from 10 states in the Union: Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia, among whom are representatives from practically

every state in the Union. There are several hundred women waiting outside.

"As I said these are working women, women who are earning their bread. As you know, there is no chivalry in industry. You know how powerfully the ballot has helped the working men and you must know that working women, because they are weaker, need the defense of the ballot even more.

"As the leader of the party in control of the government, a great power is in your hands. Will you use it to lift the legal disabilities under which these women labor? That is our question.

"I will now ask a few of the representatives of these working women to speak for themselves, though under some difficulty as each one of them is under a limitation of two minutes. I now call upon Miss Margaret Hinchey, laundry worker, from New York."

Miss Margaret Hinchey, laundry worker, New York, then spoke. She said:

"Mr. President: It is shaking and trembling, as a laundry worker, come here to speak in behalf of the working women of the United States. I have read about you and think you are fair, square, on the level and so much a real Democrat, that I believe when it is made clear to you how much we working women, who organize in the factories, the mills, the laundries and the stores, can help every true Democrat, you will use your power to wipe out this great injustice to women by giving us the vote."

Mrs. Evans: "I now call upon Miss Rose Schneidermann, cap maker and organizer of the Women's Trade Union League."

Miss Schneidermann:

"Mr. President, we working women watched carefully for your message and were very disappointed to see no mention of our cause. You must know, Mr. President, that our conditions have changed. We have followed our work out into the industries and there suffer the same conditions as our men do. We know what it is to hunt for work, to be faced with the possibility of losing our job, and knowing that there is nothing but destruction and starvation left for us. Therefore, the vote to us is an economic necessity. We urge that you consider it."

Mrs. Evans: "I will now call upon Miss Melinda Scott, labor organizer from New Jersey, your own state, Mr. President."

Miss Melinda Scott: "We working women come to you, Mr. President because we are part of the people who house and clothe and feed the world. This government is supposed to be a Democratic government, but it cannot be truly Democratic when only one-half of the people have the making of the laws. We ought to have something to say about the laws under which we live and work. No one could be serious when they say the ballot has not bettered the working man's condition, and we hope that you will bring out in your next message, Mr. President, the necessity of enfranchising the women."

Mrs. Evans: "I now call upon Miss Rose Winslow, of the Textile Workers in Pennsylvania."

Miss Winslow: "Mr. President, I am one of the thousands of women who work in the sweated trades, and have been since a child, who give their lives to build up these tremendous industries in this country, and at the end of the years of work our reward is the tuberculosis sanitarium or the street. I do not think to plead with you, Mr. President, nor make a regular speech. I don't speak to Presidents every day; it hasn't been my job, so I don't do it very gracefully."

Here the President interrupted Miss Winslow by stating that he did not see why she should be nervous, as Presidents are perfectly human. Miss Winslow then continued:

"Yes, I know, and that is why I can speak to you, because you are human and have a heart and mind and can realize our great need. I do not need to remind you how we women need the ballot. You are too intelligent a man and understand conditions too thoroughly in this country to need reminding, and I am confident that in a short time we will receive our enfranchisement through you."

The President, to committee of working women, at the White House, February 2, 1914, said:

"I need not tell you that a group of women like this appeals to me very deeply indeed. I do not have to tell you what my feelings are, but I have already explained—because I felt obliged to explain—the limitations that are laid upon me as the leader of a party. Until the party as such has considered a matter of this very supreme importance and taken its position, I am not at liberty to speak for it; and yet I am not at liberty to speak as an individual, for I am not an individual. As you see, I either speak to it in a message as you suggest or I do not speak at all. That is the limitation I am under and all I can say to you ladies is that the strength of your agitation in this matter undoubtedly will make a profound impression."

Mrs. Evans said the following after the President spoke:

"We understand your position and its difficulties quite well, Mr. President, but nevertheless we ask can we look for political action. We recognize that the verdict must come not from you alone but from the whole party. Nevertheless you are the leader of that party. I do not ask you to break with your party, what I ask is will you use your influence within your party. I don't ask the impossible, though I might from you, for you have done the impossible."

Miss Alice Paul, commenting on the answer of the President to the working women's deputation, said:

"The President stated in sum that he was waiting for the verdict of his party on woman suffrage, and he commented on the strength of our agitation. Women must learn to go on agitating with a view to securing from the party in power a favorable verdict on the question of their right to political freedom."

# COMMENTS OF THE PRESS

In the *Washington Herald* of recent date, the comments on the surrender of the Democratic party to the idea of federal supremacy were very interesting and significant. "The so-called administration bills introduced in Congress last week had for their object the improvement of commercial conditions. They can be viewed, however, from another angle. The most ardent believer in centralization can ask nothing better than the laws which have been or are to be passed by a Democratic Congress." "There was a time when one of the vital tenets of the Democratic party was an insistence upon the sacred rights of states. The founders of the party denounced Alexander Hamilton and all of his theories as to federal power. Today it would be difficult to find the line of demarcation between where Hamilton left off and the Democrats began." And as further illustrating that the old order of things is passing, it is worth while to note the decision of the United States Supreme Court last Monday which cut a wide swath through the doctrine of state rights. One of these decisions, it will be remembered, upheld the right of a railroad to begin in a federal court the proceedings necessary to test railroad rates instead of instituting them in the state courts."

In these radical measures the President undoubtedly leads the way; but to quote from an article entitled Bourbon Democrats in *The Public*, of January 30: "President Wilson's achievements cannot be fully appreciated without taking into consideration what might have been were he not President. What Congress would have done had it had its own way may be imagined from what it does when acting upon its own initiative. In voting adversely on the question of recommending the special House committee on suffrage, the Democratic members of the Rules Committee demonstrated not only that they were not Democrats, but that they lacked the ordinary prescience that prompts one to go in when it rains. There is no longer any question as to whether or not woman should vote. She is voting. The suffrage question has been tried at the bar of public opinion, and judgment has been rendered for the plaintiff."

The article ends with a rather significant sentence: "But there will be an election next fall; and the people can congratulate themselves that the Congressional term is for only two terms."

## Open-Air Meeting

An open-air meeting was held on Saturday evening at the corner of 9th and E streets, with Miss Elsie Hill and Mrs. St. Clair Thompson the speakers. Many people gathered to hear them and a number of copies of the SUFFRAGIST were sold. Collections are taken up at these meetings, and sometimes the offering amounts to two or three dollars, showing the sympathy of the men and women who are passing by, and who stop, first from curiosity, then from a genuine interest in the words of the speakers. These open-air meetings supply an interesting field for the searcher after "human interest" stories, and thoroughly disprove the anti-suffrage theory, that a woman speaking on a street corner is accorded treatment wholly different from the treatment of the "average" American woman. While occasionally the speakers are accosted with the time-worn remark of "Why don't you go home and wash dishes," the ordinary man at these street corner meetings is more truly "chivalrous" than many found in fashionable drawing rooms.

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## Congressional Union Announcements

A course of six talks on Suffrage by Speakers of International reputation will be given at the following residences, beginning February 19th, at 11 A. M.; on Thursdays, February 5th and March 19th. The hour is 8:30 P. M.

February 19th—MRS. JAMES W. PINCHOT, 1615 Rhode Island Avenue. Speaker: Janet Richards.

February 26th—MRS. CHARLES BOUGHTON WOOD, 1619 Rhode Island Avenue. Speaker: Frank Stephens.

March 5th—MRS. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL, 1331 Connecticut Avenue. Speaker: Charles Zueblin.

March 12—(Residence to be announced later.) Speaker: Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

March 19th—MR. WILLIAM ENO, 1771 N Street, Northwest. Speaker: Max Eastman.

March 26th—MRS. JOHN B. HENDERSON, 16th Street and Florida Avenue. Speaker: Ida Husted Harper.

### PATRONESSES

MRS. JAMES W. PINCHOT
MRS. CHARLES BOUGHTON WOOD
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Subscription to the course, $5.00. Apply for tickets to Mrs. J. J. White, 2408 Massachusetts Ave.

The Editor of THE SUFFRAGIST requests that all articles sent for publication be typewritten.

The Editor is very glad to read all typewritten articles sent, but wishes to explain why no propaganda for suffrage in general is published in the paper. Only articles bearing directly on the proposed constitutional amendment are desired, as the mission of THE SUFFRAGIST is strictly a national one, dealing with the work for Woman Suffrage in the direct way, through a constitutional amendment.

*Requests.*

The donation of chairs suitable for office use is requested. All who have such chairs, and are willing to donate or lend them to Headquarters, are requested to notify Miss Emily K. Perry, 1420 F Street, as soon as possible.

It is requested that every one who has time to give for Suffrage work, call at Headquarters and offer their services. Every Monday and Tuesday a special corp of workers is desired, to address wrappers for THE SUFFRAGIST.

The editors of THE SUFFRAGIST are eager to make the paper all that it should be at this important period of the Suffrage Movement in the United States. They need your co-operation and renewed interest. From now on it will be sold every Saturday on the streets by volunteer workers. Come and pledge yourself to be one of them.

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